

January 25, 2010

The Common Council met as the Water Utility at 7:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren, Fuelling, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Board member Hoehn was not present. Others attending were Chief Waters; Chief Beloit; Supt. Gray; Attorney Higgins; Mark Miller – Vectren; Joe Winiger; Sue Newman and family; David and Judy Whitten; and arriving during the meeting, Larry Williams; Supt. Givens; and Comm. Maynard.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minute if their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Askren moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented.

Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

*****CLAIMS*****

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the report of the Water Chairwoman.

Chairwoman Askren stated she has no report.

Supt. Gray reported the pressure problem on the north end of the service loop has been fixed. Long story short he added, the main was being choked off but they are not sure yet exactly where. He stated someone has a valve key that shouldn't have one, but it is now fixed and the pressure is consistent. Supt. Gray highlighted the following from his year-end report:

Disinfection Byproducts

The facility aggressively addressed the DBP issue in 2009. New chemicals were added to the process to replace Chlorine as the primary oxidizer and the Chlorine addition point was moved to a later part of the process.

Water Intakes

A temporary intake structure has been installed.

Chemical Room

A new chemical feed system was installed this year to add Sodium Permanganate to the raw water coming into the plant.

Lamella Plate Settlers

The lamellas were taken out of service for a short time this summer and the pumping system was completely redesigned.

Chlorine Room

The chlorine room is in pretty good shape.

High Service Pump Area

This is another area kept in relatively good repair.

Lab/Control Room

We've added some new lab equipment this year for sludge treatment studies.

Filtration System

On March 10th at around 10:00 am we opened the effluent valves from the Trident Filtration Units and officially put an end to the Krofta era. As a result, we saw an immediate cost savings – as much as \$9,000 a month in electricity.

Clear Well

A new intake line was installed in conjunction with the new filtration system. This line takes care of a “short-circuiting” issue that we had with the Clear Well.

Keck Booster Station

Keck Booster has now been completely replaced !

North Booster Station

The North Booster is now in service ! To replace the aging and damaged Seibert Station, three 2 inch pumps have been installed.

Seibert and Tile Factory Booster Station

The existing booster is now out of service but still in place.

Mulberry Tower

The tower is expected to be painted in the spring of 2010.

Street Department Relocation

In order to build the new filter building we had to relocate a portion of the Street Department to the Kimball Street area.

Supt. Givens arrived at the meeting.

Backwash Sludge Treatment

The city has struggled for over a decade to find a way to get within NDPES Permit limits for the backwash and flocculation sludge discharge that goes in the Ohio River. This is the byproduct of settling the solids out of the raw water during the treatment process. A geotextile dewatering system was successfully piloted this summer and has proven itself to be a viable solution to this problem. We will begin construction of the permanent facility in 2010.

Comm. Maynard arrived at the meeting.

Supt. Gray asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they have the Financial Report before them and any questions could be directed to Bookkeeper Bennett.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board ?
Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?
Attorney Higgins replied there are none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.
Board member Askren moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.
Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Wolfe
Clerk-Treasurer

Immediately following the Utility Board, before the convening of the meeting of the Common Council, Mr. Mark Miller from Vectren made a presentation to the Silo Demolition Committee.

Mr. Miller approached the podium and stated on behalf of Vectren, he would like present the City of Mt. Vernon, and the Silo Demolition Committee, a check for \$10,000.00.
Councilman Fuelling and Mr. Joe Winiger approached to accept the check and expressed gratitude to Vectren on behalf of the City, the Silo Committee, and the community as a whole.
Mr. Winiger then stated this brings the total silo funds to \$232,000.00.
Mr. Miller then left the meeting.

The Common Council then convened on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren, Fuelling, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Councilwoman Hoehn was not present. Others attending were Chief Waters; Chief Beloit; Supt. Gray; Attorney Higgins;

Joe Winiger; Sue Newman and family; David and Judy Whitten; Larry Williams; Supt. Givens; and Comm. Maynard.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minute if their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilman Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees

Street & Light Chairman Fuelling stated he has no report.

Comm. Maynard stated they all have the year end report before them and he will be glad to answer any questions they may have. He then stated he has been receiving complaints from the residence located at 8th and Munchoff, of semis driving through the yard. He added he and Asst. St. Comm. Miller looked at the area and they may need to look at putting a guardrail up, if the resident agrees. He stated they had a rock there, but the trucks have been driving over it and have pushed it through the yard as well. He added the trucks are also pushing dirt in the yard and causing drainage issues.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

Councilwoman Higgins stated she does not have a question, but she would like to commend the Street Department as well as the Water Department, and all departments that have been out working in the bitter cold fixing water leaks, etc. She added she appreciates their efforts.

Mayor Tucker asked Ms. Newman, the resident who resides at 8th and Muchoff, if she would like to address the Council ?

Ms. Newman replied, no she is satisfied with the action they will be taking.

Councilman Fuelling stated he has also looked at the area and it seems that the yard is higher than the street.

Mayor Tucker asked Attorney Higgins if there were any legal issues with putting up the guardrail ?

Attorney Higgins replied not if the city has the residents consent and there is some kind of reflective material on it so it is visible at night.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any other questions ?

There were none.

Police & Dog Chairwoman Hoehn was not present.

Chief Beloit stated they have the year end report before them and if anyone has any questions, just get with him.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Fire Chairman Curtis stated he has no report.

Chief Water stated he has no report and if they have questions on the year end report, just give him a call.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Sewer Chairwoman Higgins stated she has no report.

Supt. Givens approached and presented the following from his year end report:

*Sawmill & Water Project Phase I was completed in December along with the E & S Housing lift station project with R J Smith handing over the manuals to the new pumps and portable generator at that time.

*All state reports were filed on time with no violations.

*The labs Quality Control DMR's sample tests were received on time and all were passed by the state. The lab received a certificate of Testing Completion from the state.

*We answered 61 various called in complaints from the citizens of Mt. Vernon. All complaints were given to Danny Moss Superintendent of Lines and Lift Stations and were taken care of efficiently and in timely fashion.

*The Van-Con truck went out to flush and maintain lines 25 times in January; 24 times in February; 33 times in March; 13 times in April; 20 times in May; 21 times in June; 40 times in July; 23 times in August; 25 times in September; 15 times in October; 21 times in November; and 28 times in December.

*We will continue to deal with the State of Indiana in having the Judicial Agreements removed due to the Phase I of the Long Term Control Plan being completed.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?
Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.
Attorney Higgins stated they will have the first reading of the sidewalk ordinance at the next meeting.
There were no other Legals.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?
Councilman Fuelling stated he and Comm. Maynard will be taking a look at the Munchoff Street situation, as well Tile Factory Road – they may possibly be thinking of putting up some posts with reflectors.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?
Councilman Fuelling stated seeing the year end report for the Building Commissioner reminds him that in looking through building code ordinances, there is not an ordinance that addresses a time frame for work to be done once a building permit is issued. He added he may look at some other communities and see how long they give, or how they handle that, but again, he feels there should be some kind of time constraint once a permit is issued.
Attorney Higgins stated under the Zoning Ordinance, a permit is usually good for one year, but Mr. Bullard is updating some information for the Council that he will present at a later date – one being making the city fees uniform with the County. She added that she will mention Councilman Fuelling's concern to Mr. Bullard.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

1st District Councilwoman Askren stated she has no report.

2nd District Councilman Fuelling stated he has no report.

3rd District Councilwoman Hoehn was not present.

4th District Councilman Curtis stated he has no report.

Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins stated she has no report.

Mayor Tucker stated the meeting with INDOT on January 19th went very well, Phase I Notice to Proceed has been issued to Ragle Construction. He added there were some structural issues that needed resolved, but nothing major, it was a very positive meeting. He added a letter was sent to the design company about the issues, but they are moving ahead, with dirt to be turned very shortly.

Councilman Fuelling added Ragle seems to be great to work with so far, very level headed, common sense and all in all very well organized.

Councilwoman Higgins added the projected completion date for Phase I is August 31, 2010.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Askren moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Wolfe
Clerk-Treasurer